

Lake County Coastal Plan Committee Minutes November 19, 2008

The Lake County Coastal Plan Committee hereby finds and determines that all formal actions were taken in an open meeting of the Lake County Coastal Plan Committee and that all the deliberations of the Planning Commission and its committees, if any, which resulted in formal actions, were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Chairman Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Madison Township Stanton Park Banquet Hall at 5585 Chapel Road, Madison Twp., Ohio 44057. Mr. Larry Advey, Madison Township Administrator, welcomed everyone and stated Stanton Park was a 33 acre park. He explained all the amenities already in the Park, including a chapel, and that there were serious bluff control issues.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: Messrs. Landeg, Martin, Rising, Urbanski, Welch, Zeitz and Messes. Mindy Hayes (Alternate for Amy Brennan) and Neale. Staff present: Mr. Boyd, Mr. Webster, and Ms. Myers.

Visitors Present: Mr. Jim Park and Ms. Amanda Wenczel of ODNR Coastal Management, Mr. Dan Donaldson of the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, and a number of Madison Township lakefront residents including Messrs. W. Dubiel, L. Sheppard and John Small.

Mr. Boyd welcomed the audience and introduced Mr. Jim Park and Ms. Amanda Wenczel of ODNR Coastal Management.

MINUTES

Mr. Welch moved to accept the minutes from the May 28, 2008 meeting as submitted and Ms. Neale seconded the motion.

All voted "Aye".

OLD BUSINESS

Coastal Caucus

Mr. Boyd stated that Ms. Neale suggested at the last meeting to work with the public officials to possibly form a legislative coastal caucus to achieve a louder voice and better leverage on funding for Lake County's public coastal projects along the lake per our Coastal Development Plan. He decided to wait until after the elections and will begin working on this initiative shortly.

NEW BUSINESS

ODNR Coastal Management

The Chair stated on October 30, some local communities were awarded \$1.25 million. This money will be funneled through ODNR. Mr. Boyd and others met with the ODNR Director, Sean Logan, in October to discuss lakefront improvements and implementation strategies. The Director suggested tying future requests with economic development. He also stated that it is always best to come to them as a County rather than as an individual.

The Planning Commission has applied for two new grants: one with Soil and Water and the other with the Lake County Port Authority. Mr. Donaldson, the Director of the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, said their CMAG request will be used to create a series of coastal

landowner fact sheets to be mailed out on a monthly basis. Some topics include coastal geology, education and proper erosion protection strategies for landowners in Lake County.

Mr. Boyd had met with both Senators' aids after the last meeting in August and talked about State grants. Depending on what happens with the new President, they put in a total of about \$3.5 million of requests with the Federal Government.

ODNR Office of Coastal Management

Amanda Wenczel is the ODNR Lake Erie Shoreline Coastal Management Plan Coordinator. The Plan is a voluntary, non-regulatory initiative developed by ODNR to aid property owners with their efforts to control lake-based erosion and the best way to manage it through geology and biology. The test area will include the shoreline in Ashtabula County from the State Park to Conneaut. A needs assessment has been conducted garnering information on how property owners and public officials view erosion and what they believe are their greatest needs associated with shore erosion. They will be building on what we have started in Lake County, combining their efforts with the Army Corps of Engineers and looking for hot spots and priority issues in Ashtabula County.

Jim Park, P.E. of the Office of Coastal Management remarked that the new executive order from the Governor requires them to be a lot more responsive in reviewing leases. Good ideas and sound guidelines will be part of the Plan for effective erosion protection. The rule package has a lot stronger language on how to construct erosion structures. Their goal is to get cooperation from the landowners and to try to get everyone into compliance for everyone's protection. The Army Corps of Engineers looks at the impact a structure will have on the biology of the area; not engineering or anything below the high water mark. ODNR looks at how structures are built and their impact along the lake shoreline. Mr. Park noted a coastal design manual will be produced in 2009 for practicing engineers and surveyors.

There were a number of residents present representing a group of 50 private coastal landowners in the Madison area. They gave their comments and questions on issues pertaining to erosion on their properties, how to get help financially (State grants can only be used for public property) with their property erosion problems, rules and regulations by ODNR and the Army Corps of Engineers, how the erosion solutions at public parks can effect their property, the affect of the new judge's ruling on the water line, and requirements on leases, taxes and insurance on the property under water, etc.

All questions were addressed and Mr. Boyd said this committee had made attempts to help a larger group of landowners to find a conduit to get funding for a pilot project that included private land to no avail. However, if anyone would like assistance with what has been done through the public park improvements we have worked with, we would be glad to help them and meet after this meeting with them. This committee's job is to plan, zone, design, and configure land use development on publically held properties.

Community Updates

The Chair introduced Ms. Mindy Hayes as an alternate for Ms. Amy Brennan, the Director of Chagrin River Watershed Partners.

Madison Township – Larry Advey – Mr. Advey talked about the Township's plans for Stanton Park and the funding they received 10-12 years ago from the Federal Government for proposed improvements. In answer to a lot of public requests, they are currently planning to unveil a plan this summer that will allow better utilization of the grounds. They have been working on this plan

with the Port Authority, Coastal Committee, the Planning Commission and Township members to possibly turn this park into a destination point. Madison Township Park will also receive some improvements after a detailed plan is developed. They will be looking for an engineering firm for this project.

Mentor - Bob Martin – The City is starting to work on Spring dredging and looking at the channel to make sure it doesn't give them problems.

Willowick – Mark Rising – The Larimore development is slowing in sales, but there is still some activity.

County Engineer's Office – Bruce Landeg – He had nothing to report on the coastal side.

Lake County Planning Commission – Darrell Webster - He will be retiring at the end of January 2009 with 44 years of service.

Friends of Ward Creek – Bob Zeitz – He had attended a meeting in Willoughby where they were looking at opportunities for a shoreline project. This committee also represents some private property owners who do not live on the shoreline. They enjoy public access and he is also an avid fisherman who uses public access.

Mr. Boyd added that he met with Willoughby Councilman Woodin five or six months ago regarding grant possibilities from ODNR for the north end of the Willoughby Park. The park has a dead zone on the north end about a quarter mile from the trail end to the water front. Mr. Woodin called a community meeting to talk about the possibilities and about 200 people came, which shows the value the people have on their lakefront. He felt there were a lot of good ideas and some buy-in from Willoughby.

Perry Township – Mark Welch – It is quiet for now. They are waiting for funds.

Lake Metroparks – Vince Urbanski – They had refurbished and repaved the asphalt trails at the North Perry Lake Shore Reservation. There is a new shelter and they are also going to put in a new restroom. For its size, it is probably one of the top five or six visited parks.

Lakeline – Deborah Neale – The sidewalks were new.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced that Mr. Dave Noble, Executive Director of Lake Metroparks will be retiring from Lake Metroparks on December 31, 2008 and Mr. Dennis Sholtis will be resigning from this Committee on the same date. He also wanted to note that Mr. Allen has been out of town for our last few meetings and he wanted to let everyone know that he is still involved.

The next meeting will be held on February 25, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. The location will be determined at a later date.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.